



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
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Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montañó

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **OCTOBER 31, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montañó led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montañó
Vice Chair Helen Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Rita Hall
John Hammargren
Carl E. Moore

Others Present

Sandra Barbee, Chief, Commission Services
Janice Davis, Commission Services Staff
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff
Garen Khachian, Commission Services Staff

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 24, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Bacio, and unanimously carried, the minutes of October 24, 2007 were approved, with the following changes:

- On page 3, Department of Mental Health, change: *“Norwalk and Metropolitan State Hospitals”* to *“Metropolitan State Hospital in Norwalk”*...

Commissioner Moore joined the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

CHAIR’S REPORT

Chair Montaña gave the following report:

- “Pay For Foster Care Called Too Low”, Los Angeles Times, October 4, 2007, regarding a federal report stating California’s payment rate for foster homes lags behind the cost of living.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission’s Charitable Fund is \$908.07.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Janice Davis, Staff, Commission Services gave the following reports:

- Ms. Davis asked the Commission if they would be interested in changing the date of the previously scheduled Cultural Diversity and Ethics Training from January 16, 2008 in the A.M. to December 19, 2007, in the A.M. The Commission voted to change to December 19, 2007 in the A.M.
- The Los Angeles County Commission for Women is requesting nominations for Woman of the Year, to be presented at the 23rd Annual Women of the Year Luncheon to be held on March 10, 2008. Ms. Davis asked the Commission if there were any group home caregivers they felt should be recommended for nomination.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were none.

DISCUSSION OF DONATION TO TIERRA DEL SOL FOUNDATION

Chair Montaña discussed a letter received by the Commission requesting contributions to the Tierra Del Sol Christmas Party. The Tierra Del Sol is a home for seriously disabled persons ranging from ages 18-65. The Commission decided to donate \$100 for this year.

On motion by Commissioner Hammargren, and seconded by Commissioner Bacio, and unanimously approved to donate \$100 towards the Tierra Del Sol Foundation Christmas Party.

FACILITY INSPECTION REPORTS FROM OCTOBER 24 TO OCTOBER 30, 2007

Little People's World – 36, #4 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on October 25, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Area of Concern: North side of home needs repair (vent needs cover).

GLASS (Benton) Home – 26, #1– Commissioner Hammargren

The facility was visited on October 26, 2007 and no one was home.

Manna Manor – 33, #4 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaño

The facility was visited on October 29, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Tiles in shower need to be repaired; bath tub needs to be recaulked.

West Hollywood Sheriff Station – Commissioners Hall, Moore and Stathatos

The facility was visited on October 29, 2007 and found to be in good condition.

Areas of Concern: Camera system needed; jail needs more staffing (i.e., 25% percent of all L.A. County DUI arrests are jailed here with only one jailer on duty).

Cunningham Group Home – 13, #5 – Commissioners Bacio and Moore

The facility was visited on October 30, 2007, and no one was home.

Dangerfield Group Home – 14, #1 – Commissioners Hall and Montaño

The facility was visited on October 30, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Area of Concern: Two (2) security bars on windows are inoperative; emergency releases for windows are behind beds and are not accessible.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

At the request of Commissioners Hall and Moore the Department Representatives will be provided a due date for responses to areas of concern.

On motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Vice Chair Stathatos, and unanimously carried, a letter will be sent to the Department Heads, notifying them, that in 2008 the Commission is requesting Representatives follow the "Guidelines for Reporting" at each Sybil Brand Commission Business Meeting.

Commissioner Hammargren reported that Dr. Bill Cosby's new book claims that of the "500,000 children in foster homes 75% of them are African American".

Commissioner Moore distributed a "Reference Guide on the Shelf Life of Food"; provided to him during his inspection of the GLASS Home.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Davis
Commission Services Division